

R E M A R K S

Claims 1-15 are pending in the application.

Claim 15 is allowed and claims 5-12 are objected to.

The present application claims foreign priority from Japanese Application 11-249627 and a certified copy of the priority document was submitted with the filing of the present application. It is respectfully requested that priority be acknowledged and acknowledged that all copies of the priority document have been received.

Figure 27 is objected to for a typographical error. A formal substitute Figure 27 is submitted herewith which corrects the error.

The specification and claim 15 are objected to for informalities. The objected to informalities in the specification and claim 15 have been corrected herein.

No new matter is entered.

Claims 1-3, 13 and 14 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as unpatentable over applicant's Figs. 26 and 27 in view of Kim (U.S. 6,519,256). Claim 4 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as applied to claim 1 and further in view of Mikkonen (U.S. 6,587,457).

Applicant's Figs. 26 and 27 disclose setting a PVC between a user-side device and a specified connection destination in advance. The PVC is a fixed path and is set in advance.

Kim discloses connecting between a user terminal and a PVC control server in an ATM network by using a SVC. Kim teaches that by way of the SVC, the user terminal may demand a connection to the PVC (col. 3, line 58). However Kim does not teach or even suggest that a user terminal, connected by a PVC, may have the PVC connected to connect to one path of the

connection request destination and thereby forming a path between the user-side device and the specified connection destination.

Therefore applicant's claimed invention is different from Figs. 26 and 27 and Kim in setting a PVC between a user-side device and a handler in advance and forming a path between the PVC and the specified connection destination by a connection request from the user-side device. Figs. 26 and 27 simply describe a PVC and Kim only describes a user terminal using an SVC to request to a control server for a PVC.

That is the cited references do not disclose 'that is connected with the user-side device by a permanent virtual connection path" and "causes said permanent virtual connection path connected with the user-side device to one path of the connection request destination" as recited in claim 1.

For at least the foregoing reasons it is respectfully requested the rejection of claim 1 be withdrawn. Claims 2, 3, 13 and 14 depend from claim 1 and include at least its distinguishing features in addition to the features in each dependent claim. Claims 2, 3, 13 and 14 are likewise in condition for allowance.

In view of the remarks set forth above, this application is in condition for allowance which action is respectfully requested. However, if for any reason the Examiner should consider this application not to be in condition for allowance, the Examiner is respectfully requested to telephone the undersigned attorney at the number listed below prior to issuing a further Action.

Any fee due with this paper may be charged to Deposit Account No. 50-1290.

Respectfully submitted,



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